

NORTHEAST DISTRICT COUNCIL

Thursday, September 5, 2013

7:00 to 9:00 PM

Wedgwood Presbyterian Church

Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order: 7:00 PM

Introductions:

Members: Gabrielle Gerhard (Windermere North), Tony Provine (Ravenna-Bryant), Erin Todd (Wedgwood), Nicolette Bromberg (Belvedere Terrace), Steve Wilkins (University District CC), Matt Hoehnen (Roosevelt Neighbors' Alliance), Sue Hildreth (University Park CC), Jeannie Hale (Laurelhurst), Bill Dickinson (Inverness), Nancy Bolin (View Ridge CC), Peter Zimmerman (Solid Ground resident), Neale Weaver (View Ridge CC), Pam Xander (Hawthorne Hills), Gretchen Bear (Matthews Beach)

Guests: Edna Shin (Seattle Children's Hospital), David Miller, Donna Hartmann-Miller (Maple Leaf CC), Jordan Royer, Julianna Ross (Magnuson Park Advisory Committee), Tim Burgess (Seattle City Council), Alex Pederson (CM Burgess' office), David Katz (Ravenna Business District), Virginia Gunby (Puget Sound Regional Council, Transportation Committee), Marjorie Rhodes (Choices Not Districts), George Gunby, Hermann Ross (Choices Not Districts)

Staff: Karen Ko (Dept. of Neighborhoods)

Secretary for the night: Nancy Bolin

Announcements: Nancy Bolin highlighted two items. First, the View Ridge CC "Party In The Park" occurring on Sunday September 8. Second, the annual auction of the University District Food Bank will occur on October 5; tickets are available at www.udistrictfoodbank.org.

Public Comment: Virginia Gunby, Puget Sound Regional Council, Transportation Committee (and Ravenna Bryant Community Association) presented a short appeal that NEDC support the need for new coordinated, smarter multimodal North-end Passenger Access and Egress plans for users of the future north-end Sound Transit's Light Rail stations.

David Katz representing the Ravenna Business District spoke against the current plan to put a cycle track down NE 65th Street.

New Local Radio Station: Julianna Ross, President of the Magnuson Park Advisory Committee announced that building 30 which has been undergoing renovation will re-open in November. There is room for 24 artists to be housed there. It is also possible to establish a local radio station there. The station would have up to a 3-mile radius. Seattle will actually be getting 8 to 10 such stations to be implemented throughout the

city. The proposed station would be on the air for a minimum of 20 hours per week and 8 hours per day. What would the community want from such a station? Suggestions included: updates from organizations in Magnuson Park; family matters; NEDC matters; NOAA news; emergency matters; local school news; community council news, etc. For more information, go to:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Prometheus_Radio_Project

City of Seattle Budget—2014 Tim Burgess, Seattle City Councilmember and Chair of the Council's Budget Committee described the City Budget timeline. The Mayor will present his budget for 2014 on September 23 at 2 pm in City Council Chambers. The Council will consider the Mayor's proposal as well as Council priorities and then approve a final version on the Monday of Thanksgiving week. The entire budget is around \$4 billion with \$3 billion going for capital projects and \$1 billion slated for the operating budget. 57% of the operating budget is allocated to public safety: police, fire, courts, etc.). In the past public safety and human services have been the highest priority. This year the Council must consider possible funding cuts for human services by the State. The good news is that tax revenues are way up with the upturn of the economy. The City Council will look at budget proposals through a "lens of affordability." Will individual expenditures contribute to the middle class being able to live in Seattle? CM Burgess asked for our thoughts on priorities. There was great interest in additional police protection. The SCC is not resistant to funding more police officers. Additional ideas can emailed to CM Burgess at: tim.burgess@seattle.gov.

Charter Amendment 19: Representing "Seattle Districts Now," David Miller, President of the Maple Leaf CC, spoke in favor of the amendment. Seattle is currently a city of 617,000 citizens but we know the City will grow tremendously in the next decade. The proposal to have 7 Seattle City Council members elected by district and 2 at large members would give greater voice to individual areas of the city so that all are fairly represented. We would be the 48th out of 50 large cities in this country to adopt a district system.

Marjorie Rhodes, representing "No on Amendment 19," stated that city council members should still be responsible to citizens of the entire city as they are now. It would be harder to unseat incumbents in a district system. She feels that citizens do have reasonable access to government under the current system and pointed to the city and district councils as proof.

There was a suggestion that we consider writing a letter of support for the District proposal. There was no second and the group indicated that they preferred to take the question back to their councils.

CNC and Bike Master Plan Update: Gabrielle Gerhard summarized the July CNC meeting. On Micro-housing, the City should do more regarding safety issues. That area is not clearly addressed as developments are now under boarding house laws where stiffer safety measures, especially regarding fire, are not in effect. Comments on the draft Seattle Master Bicycle Plan goals: they are laudable but should not be

implemented without more comment. The group asked the City to roll over current funding for neighborhood matching grants.

Gabrielle also reported on the recent review of the Seattle Master Bicycle Plan hosted by the Ravenna/Bryant CC and with the Mayor, representatives from SDOT and members of the Mayor's staff were there to present and to answer questions. About 400 people attended and the vast majority opposed the proposed cycle track on NE 65th Street. Nicolette made a motion that NEDC send a letter to the Mayor and SDOT opposing the NE 65th plan; Jeannie seconded. The motion was approved with 2 abstentions.

Tony Provine later commented that the Mayor was so grateful for the way Ravenna/Bryant CC handled the meeting that he offered to implement whatever project the community most wanted. President Sarah Swanberg of RBCC suggested NE 50th Street work. Gabrielle made a motion that NEDC support this idea. Peter Zimmerman seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 9 pm.